

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A wear rod for a snowmobile ski, comprising:
a bar comprising a first material extending longitudinally;
at least one mounting structure adapted to mount wear rod to the ski;
at least one strip of a second material harder than the first material mounted to the bar and extending longitudinally adapted to increase wear resistance of the wear rod; and
at least two wear edges formed of the second material, the at least two wear edges being separated laterally by at least one longitudinally extending channel.
2. (Original) The wear rod of claim 1 wherein said at least two wear edges comprises at least three wear edges, including two outer side wear edges and an intermediate wear edge, and said at least one channel comprising at least two channels, each outer side wear edge being laterally separated from the intermediate wear edge by one of the channels.
3. (Original) The wear rod of claim 2 wherein said at least three wear edges and said at least two channels are integrally formed in a single unitary body of said second material.
4. (Original) The wear rod of claim 2 wherein said intermediate wear edge comprises a generally flat bottom wear edge being generally planar in the horizontal and having two corners, and said outer side wear edges comprise sharp edges.
5. (Original) The wear rod of claim 2 wherein said at least three wear edges are provided by at least three separate strips of the second material.
6. (Original) The wear rod of claim 1 further comprising at least two grooves extending longitudinally in lateral spaced relation, each groove having at least one strip of said second material soldered therein.

7. (Original) The wear rod of claim 3 further comprising at least one groove extending longitudinally and said single unitary body of said second material soldered in the at least one groove.

8. (Original) The wear rod of claim 2 wherein said intermediate wear edge is located at a vertical elevation between about 0 inch and about .05 inch below said outer side wear edges, and the outer side wear edges are located a horizontal distance between about 0.2 inch and about 0.3 inch from a vertical axis.

9. (Original) The wear rod of claim 8 wherein a plane defined by the intermediate wear edge and either of the outer side wear edges forms an angle α with a horizontal axis, said angle α being between about 8 degrees and about 15 degrees.

10. (Original) The wear rod of claim 2 wherein said intermediate wear edge projects vertically below the outer side wear edges a first predetermined distance, and the outer side wear edges being spaced laterally from a vertical axis a second predetermined distance, the first and second predetermined distances being selected such that tilting of the wear rod by a tilt angle when the ski, to which the wear rod is attached, turns results in the partial or entire shifting of the loads of the snowmobile from the intermediate wear edge to an outer side wear edge.

11. (Original) The wear rod of claim 1 wherein said at least one strip of second material comprises at least two strips of said second material mounted consecutively and end-to-end and said at least two wear edges are formed such that the entire longitudinal length of the wear edges is formed from multiple strips of the second material.

12. (Original) The wear rod of claim 1 wherein said first material comprises steel and said second material comprises carbide.

13. (Original) A wear rod for a snowmobile ski, comprising:
a host bar comprising steel extending longitudinally between a front end and a rear end and having an upwardly bent front end;

at least one threaded post integrally connected to the host bar adapted to mount the wear rod to the snowmobile ski;

at least one carbide strip comprising carbide material extending longitudinally along the host bar and being soldered to the host bar;

at least two wear edges of the carbide material, the at least two wear edges being laterally spaced and extending longitudinally a substantial length of the carbide strip in parallel relation and projecting downward; and

at least one channel laterally between the at least two wear edges.

14. (Original) The wear rod of claim 13 wherein said host bar further comprises at least one groove extending longitudinally substantially the length of the at least one carbide strip, said at least one carbide strip being mounted in the at least one groove with said solder.

15. (Original) The wear rod of claim 14 wherein said at least two wear edges comprises at least three wear edges, including two outer side wear edges and an intermediate wear edge and said at least one channel comprises two channels, each outer side wear edge being laterally separated from the intermediate wear edge by one of the two channels.

16. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein said at least one carbide strip comprises three individual carbide strips and said at least three wear edges comprises three wear edges wherein each of the at least three wear edges are separately formed from the three individual carbide strips, respectively.

17. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein said at least three wear edges and said at least two channels are integrally formed in a single unitary carbide strip.

18. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein said intermediate wear edge is a flat bottom wear edge being generally planar in the horizontal and said outer side wear edges are sharp edges.

19. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein said at least three wear edges are sharp edges.

20. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein said intermediate wear edge is located at a vertical elevation between about 0 inch and .05 inch below the outer side wear edges and the outer side wear edges are located a horizontal distance from a vertical axis about 0.2" and about 0.3".

21. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein a plane defined by the intermediate wear edge and either of the outer side wear edges forms an angle α with a horizontal axis, said angle α being between about 8 degrees and about 15 degrees.

22. (Original) The wear rod of claim 15 wherein said intermediate wear edge projects vertically below the outer side wear edges a first predetermined distance, and the outer side wear edges being spaced laterally from a vertical axis a second predetermined distance, the first and second predetermined distances being selected such that tilting of the wear rod by a tilt angle when a ski is turned results in the partial or entire shifting of the loads of the snowmobile from the intermediate wear edge to an outer side wear edge.

23. (Original) The wear rod of claim 13 wherein said at least one carbide strip comprises at least two carbide strips mounted consecutively and end to end, such that the entire longitudinal length of said at least two wear edges is formed from no less than two carbide strips.

24. (Original) The wear rod of claim 13 wherein said at least one carbide strip comprises at least two carbide strips extending longitudinally in parallel relation, each carbide strip forms a wear edge, the two wear edges being separated by at least one longitudinally extending channel.

25. (Original) The wear rod of claim 24 wherein said at least two wear edges and said channel are formed in a single unitary body of said at least one carbide strip such that the at least two wear edges are separated by the at least one channel.

26. (Original) A snowmobile ski for a snowmobile, comprising:
a substantially planar ski body comprising an upwardly bent front tip, a center keel and a connecting shoe for connecting the snowmobile ski to the snowmobile; and
a wear rod comprising a host bar comprising steel extending longitudinally between a front end and a rear end, having an upwardly bent front end and the bottom of the host bar having at least one groove extending longitudinally, at least one threaded post integrally connected to the host bar adapted to mount the wear rod to the ski, at least one carbide strip comprising a carbide material and being soldered in the groove, extending longitudinally substantially the length of the groove, at least two wear edges formed of the carbide material, the at least two wear edges extending longitudinally a substantial length of the carbide strip in parallel relation and at least one channel formed between the at least two wear edges.

27. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 26 wherein said at least two wear edges comprises at least three wear edges, including two outer side wear edges and an intermediate wear edge and said at least one channel comprises two channels, each outer side wear edge being separated from the intermediate wear edge by one of the two channels.

28. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein each of said at least wear edges are separately formed from three individual carbide strips, respectively.

29. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein said at least three wear edges and said at least two channels are integrally formed in a unitary body.

30. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein said intermediate wear edge comprises a flat bottom wear edge being generally planar in the horizontal between two corners and said outer side wear edges are sharp edges.

31. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein said at least three wear edges are sharp edges.

32. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein said intermediate wear edge is located at a vertical elevation between about 0 inch and .05 inch below the outer side wear edges and the outer side wear edges are located a horizontal distance from a vertical axis about 0.2 inch and about 0.3 inch.

33. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein a plane defined by the intermediate wear edge and either of the outer side wear edges forms an angle α with a horizontal axis, said angle α being between about 8 degrees and about 15 degrees.

34. (Original) The snowmobile ski of claim 27 wherein said intermediate wear edge projects vertically below the outer side wear edges a first predetermined distance, and the outer side wear edges being spaced laterally from a vertical axis a second predetermined distance, the first and second predetermined distances being selected such that tilting of the wear rod by a tilt angle when a snowmobile ski is turned results in the partial or entire shifting of the loads of the snowmobile from the intermediate wear edge to an outer side wear edge.